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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
PAPE, ZACHARY	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2835	

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/791,997	COSTER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Zachary M. Pape	2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 October 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,28-40 and 44* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *44* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,28-33 and 35-40* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *34* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *02 March 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/2/04
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/18/2005 has been entered.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. **Therefore, the ramps of the hook receivers of claim 30** must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for

consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The ramp of claim 30 is not discussed in the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2, 35-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claim 2, applicant's recite, "wherein the removable access door is secured to the housing without using fasteners" which the applicant defines as items such as, screws, bolts, grommets, or snaps (See specification page 2, paragraph 5). The use of the phrase, "such as" is considered to be indefinite and thus the definition of

fasteners as set forth by the applicant is "open ended" and could in fact include fasteners of the type used by the applicant (which includes the latching mechanism). Similarly, the definition of fasten, as set forth by the American Heritage College Dictionary, 4th edition, is "To attach firmly to something else". Additionally, said dictionary also defines fastening as, "something such as a hook used to attach one thing to another firmly". These definitions contradict the applicant's invention (which is to attach a removable access door to a housing) since an means of attaching the door to the housing would require a fastener. Claims 33 and 34 are rejected for at least the reason that they depend from claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 28-29, 31-32, 35-38, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen (US 6,932,447) in view of Lin et al. (US 6,824,174).

With respect to claim 1, Chen et al. teaches a computer comprising: a housing (10) having an access opening (Opposite 18, between 14 and 16 as illustrated in Fig 2); a removable access door (80) for tool-less placement in front of the access opening in order to prevent passage through the access opening; a quick release latching mechanism (50) configured to facilitate the mount and release of the access door to and

from the housing (Column 4, Lines 14-32, 61-65), the quick release latching mechanism including a quick release handle (70). Chen et al. fails to teach that the quick release handle is pivotally coupled to the housing, and the rotation of the handle causing the removable access door to be mounted and released to and from the housing. Lin et al. teaches a pivoting handle (10) for removing a cover from a base. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the housing art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Lin et al. with the teachings of Chen et al. to provide an alternate equivalent means of operating the latching mechanism of Chen et al. (I.E. the latch of Lin et al. could replace the quick release handle of Chen et al. and provide the same function of moving the latching mechanism as disclosed by Chen. Also see Lin et al: Column 1, Lines 50-52).

With respect to claim 2, as best can be understood by the examiner, Chen et al. further teaches that the removable access door is secured to the housing without using fasteners (See Column 1, Lines 28-35).

With respect to claim 3, Chen et al. further teaches that the quick release latching mechanism includes a housing side locking mechanism (50, As illustrated in Fig 3) and a door side locking mechanism (82, as illustrated in Fig 1) that are cooperatively positioned so that when the removable access door is placed in front of the access opening, the locking mechanisms are capable of lockably engaging with each other thus securing the removable access door to the housing (As illustrated in Fig 6), the locking mechanisms engaging and disengaging one another via the rotation of the quick release handle (See Column 4, Lines 61-65 where the housing locking mechanisms

could be operated by rotating the equivalent handle of Lin et al. to move the latching mechanism up and down such that the access door and housing engage and disengage as desired).

With respect to claim 4, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. teaches the limitations of claim 1 above but fails to teach that the quick release latching mechanism (50) includes a plurality of retention hooks located on the housing that mate with a plurality of hook receivers located on the removable access door, the retention hooks being configured to engage the hook receivers in order to hold the removable access door in front of the opening. Rather, Chen et al. teaches the parts in reverse, that is, that the quick release latching mechanism (50) includes a plurality of hook receivers (52) and the removable access door includes a plurality of retention hooks (83) which mate with each other to hold the removable access door in front of the opening (See Column 4, Lines 13-33; and Lines 61-65). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reverse the retention hooks and hook receivers onto the latching mechanism and removable access door respectively since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. In re Einstein, 8 USPQ 167. Reversing the retention hooks and hook receivers onto the latching mechanism and removable access door respectively is an alternate equivalent means of attaching two pieces of material (Similar to reversing the hook and loop construction of Velcro, the two materials will still attach no matter the orientation of the hook and the loop of the material).

With respect to claim 5, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. further teaches that the reversed retention hooks (83, now placed on the latching mechanism 50) are movable between an engagement position, coupling the retention hooks with the hook receivers, and a disengagement position, decoupling the retention hooks for the hook receivers, the removable access door being secured to the housing when the retention hooks and hook receivers are engaged (Column 4, Lines 13-33, Lines 61-65), the removable access door being released from the housing when the retention hook and hook receivers are disengaged, the retention hooks moving between the engagement and disengagement position via the rotation of the quick release handle (Column 4, Lines 13-33, Lines 61-65. In addition to the access door "snapping" into place as described by Chen et al., the access door could also be attached via rotating the quick release handle of Lin et al. to cause the latching mechanism to translate, aligning the access door hook receivers with the hooks of the latching mechanism, and rotating the quick release handle of Lin et al. to cause the latching mechanism to again translate to the locked position).

With respect to claim 28, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. further teaches that the retention hooks are positioned on a slider bar (Reversal of parts of claim 4 places the hooks on the slider bar) that slides relative to the housing, and wherein the sliding action of the slider bar is provided by the rotation of the quick release handle (10 of Lin et al. where instead of using the quick release handle (70) of Chen et al. to release the locking mechanism, the handle of Lin et al. is rotated to cause the translational movement of the locking mechanism (50) of Chen et al.).

With respect to claim 29, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. further teaches a mechanism (45) for transforming the rotary motion of the quick release handle (10) into linear motion of the slider bar (I.E. The tongue (45) of Lin et al. could interact with the locking hole (68) of the locking mechanism of Chen et al. to cause a translational motion of the locking mechanism).

With respect to claim 31, Chen et al. further teaches that the retention hooks (83 which are placed on the locking mechanism) are flanges that protrude away from the housing (As illustrated in Fig 4) and the hook receivers (52 which are placed on the access door) are slots built into the access door (Chen teaches that the slots are built into the locking mechanism and therefore it would be obvious to similarly build them into the access door) the slots being configured to receive the flanges therein (As illustrated in Fig 4).

With respect to claim 32, Chen et al. further teaches that the retention hooks are positioned within the access opening (As illustrated in Fig 4), and wherein the hook receivers are positioned on an inner surface of the access door (The hook receivers would be positioned on an inner surface of the access door to operate as illustrated in Fig 4).

With respect to claim 35, as best can be understood by the examiner, Chen et al. teaches a computer, comprising: a housing (10) having an access opening (Opposite 18); a removable access door (80) for covering the access opening, the removable access door not having any movable parts thereon; a latching system (50, 83) including a housing side locking feature (50) and a door side locking feature (83) that when

engaged secure the removable access door to the housing and that when disengaged allow the release of the removable access door from the housing (Column 4 Lines 13-33, Lines 61-65); and a quick release handle positioned at the housing (70). Chen et al. fails to teach that the quick release handle is configured to facilitate the engagement and disengagement of the locking features via a pivoting action, the quick release handle pivoting between an open position where the locking features are forced into disengagement thereby releasing the access door from the housing, and a closed position where the locking features are forced into lockable engagement thereby securing the access door to the housing. Lin et al. teaches a quick release handle which pivots to release a cover from a base. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Lin et al. with that of Chen et al. to provide an alternate equivalent means of operating the latching mechanism of Chen et al. (I.E. the latch of Lin et al. could replace the quick release handle of Chen et al. and provide the same function of moving the latching mechanism as disclosed by Chen et al. (Which entails the same locking steps as set forth in claim 35). Also see Lin et al: Column 1, Lines 50-52).

With respect to claim 36, as best can be understood by the examiner, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. teaches the limitations of claim 35 above, and further teaches the method of engaging the housing side locking feature with the locking features of the removable access door (See column 4 Lines 13-33, Lines 61-65), wherein the housing side locking feature includes a plurality of slots (52) built into the inner surface of the housing, and the locking features of the removable access door includes flanges (83),

but fails to teach that the housing side locking feature includes a plurality of flanges and wherein the door side locking feature includes a plurality of interior slots that are built into the inner surface of the access door. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reverse the access door flanges onto the housing side locking feature (50) and place the interior slots of the locking feature (50) onto the access door since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. In re Einstein, 8 USPQ 167. Reversing the flanges and the interior slots is an alternate equivalent means of attaching two pieces of material (Similar to reversing the hook and loop construction of Velcro, the two materials will still attach no matter the orientation of the hook and the loop of the material).

With respect to claim 37, as best can be understood by the examiner, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. further teaches a mechanism (45) for transforming the rotary motion of the quick release handle (10) into linear motion of the slider bar (I.E. The tongue (45) of Lin et al. could interact with the locking hole (68) of the locking mechanism of Chen et al. to cause a translational motion of the locking mechanism).

With respect to claim 38, as best can be understood by the examiner, Chen et al. further teaches a stiffener (See present office action Fig 1 below) that is attached to an inner surface of the planar access door, the stiffener being configured for insertion into a recess within the access opening when the access door covers the access opening.

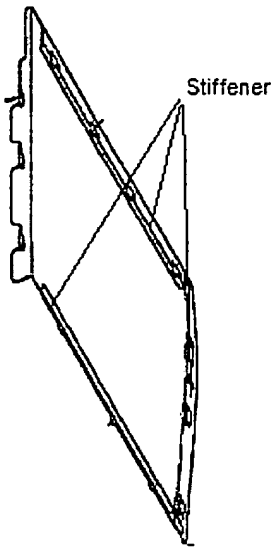

Fig 1

With respect to claim 40, Chen et al. teaches a housing (10), an access opening (opposite 18) and a continuous recess at the edge of the access opening (The bottom plate (12) of the housing (10) has a recess to accept the removable access door), a removable access door (80), a continuous retention lip (along the bottom of the access door near 82) which allows the removable access door to be rotated into the access opening, a quick release latching mechanism (50) comprising, a slider assembly having a slider bar (50) slidably retained in the housing, and a handle (70). Chen et al. fails to teach a plurality of hook receivers positioned on an inner surface of the access door, a plurality of retention hooks that are attached to the slider bar and located within the access opening, that the handle is pivotally coupled to the housing, or a motion transform assembly which facilitates use of the slider bar (50) to attach the access door to the housing. Lin et al. teaches a handle (10) that is pivotally coupled to a housing which would operate such that rotational motion of the handle would result in

translational motion of the slider bar (50) thus allowing the system of Chen et al. to operate in a similar manner as described in Column 4 Lines 13-33, Lines 61-65. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Lin et al. with those of Chen et al. to provide an alternate equivalent means of operating the latching mechanism of Chen et al. (I.E. the latch of Lin et al. could replace the quick release handle of Chen et al. and provide the same function of moving the latching mechanism as disclosed by Chen. Also see Lin et al: Column 1, Lines 50-52).

With respect to Chen et al's. failure to teach that the hook receivers and retention hooks on the access door and slider bar respectively, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reverse the access door hooks (83) onto the housing side locking feature (50) and place the interior slots (52) of the locking feature (50) onto the access door since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. In re Einstein, 8 USPQ 167. Reversing the flanges and the interior slots is an alternate equivalent means of attaching two pieces of material (Similar to reversing the hook and loop construction of Velcro, the two materials will still attach no matter the orientation of the hook and the loop of the material).

Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (hereafter referred to as Chen 447) in view of Lin et al. and further in view of Chen (US 6,917,518 hereafter referred to as Chen 518).

With respect to claim 30, Chen 447 in view of Lin et al. teaches the limitations of claim 5 above, but fails to teach that the hook receivers (On the access door of Chen 447)) include a ramp that causes the access door to move towards the housing as the retention hooks are moved into the hook receivers, and that causes the access door to move away from the housing as the retention hooks are moved out of the hook receivers. Chen 518 teaches the conventionality of having ramps on hook receivers to facilitate the engagement and disengagement of two members (See Figs 5, 6 and 7 near 26). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Chen 518 with the teachings of Chen 447 and Lin et al. to provide easy assembly and disassembly of a computer enclosure (Chen 518, Column 1, Lines 48-51).

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. and further in view of Huang (US 2004/0085719).

With respect to claim 33, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. fails to teach that the quick release handle (In general 10, specifically 64) is seated inside a pocket in the housing when the access door is mounted to the housing and wherein the quick release handle protrudes away from the pocket when the access door is released from the housing. Huang teaches the conventionality of utilizing a quick release handle (5) such that the handle is seated within a pocket in a housing (4) when the access door is mounted (As illustrated in Fig 5) and wherein the quick release handle protrudes away from the pocket when the access door is released from the housing (As illustrated in Fig

3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Huang with the teachings of Chen et al. and Lin et al. to provide a more aesthetically pleasing housing member. Additionally having the handle sit within a pocket as taught by Huang reduces the overall bulkiness of the device.

Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. and further in view of Worley et al. (US 6,359,214) and further in view of Radu et al. (US 6,542,384).

With respect to claim 39, as best can be understood by the examiner, Chen et al. in view of Lin et al. fails to specifically teach the use of an EMI gasket and that the housing is formed of metal. Worley teaches the conventionality of using an EMI gasket (20) to shield internal components near an opening in a chassis. Further, Radu et al. teaches the conventionality of creating a computer chassis of metal (Radu, Column 1, Lines 19-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the metal chassis of Radu et al. and the EMI gasket of Worley et al. with the computer chassis of Chen et al. to provide a means of making internal components (circuitry, etc.) within the chassis of Chen et al. immune to outside electromagnetic waves which may damage them (Worley; Column 1, Lines 15-18). Additionally building a computer chassis of metal is cost effective, durable, and easy to manufacture and assemble.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 34 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

With respect to claim 34, the allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited in (dependent) claim 34 and at least in part because claim 34 recites "a lock receiver configured to receive a padlock", and "a first extension, and a second extension each of which is configured for insertion into an opening in the quick release handle".

The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claims 33, and 1 are believed to render said claim 34 patentable over the art of record.

6. Claim 44 is allowed.

With respect to claim 44, the allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited in independent claim 44 and at least in part because claim 44 recites "a support bar that extends across the access opening between the front and back walls".

The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claim 44, are believed to render said claim 34 patentable over the art of record.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 28-34, 35-39, and 40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 4,501,460, US 2004/0196623 both further teach chassis attachment means.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary M. Pape whose telephone number is 571-272-2201. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thur. & every other Fri. (8:00am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached at 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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PRIMARY EXAMINER